Amount targeted through disinvestment

*71. DR. B.B. DUTTA: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the amount targeted to be raised through disinvestment during last three years;

(b) what has been the actual realisation against these targets;

(c) the targets fixed for 1997-98;

(d) whether the target originally fixed for 1997-98 has been revised upwards; and

(e) if so, the reasons therefore?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN): (a) and (b) The amount tergeted to be raised through disinvestment during the last three years and the actual realisation against these years are as under:—

(Rs. in crores)

Year	Target for Disinvestment	*Amount realisation
1994-95	4000	4843
1995-96	7000	168
1996-97	5000	379

(c) to (e) Initially a target of Rs. 4800 crores was fixed for disinvestment during the year 1997-98 which has subsequently been revised to Rs. 7000 crores in order to raise additional resoruces during the financial year 1997-98.

Schemes for the Welfare of OBCs

*72. SHRI RAHASBIHARI BARIK: Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of schemes introduced by Government for the welfare of Other Backward Classes (OBCs);

(b) whether the schemes have been sponsored for welfare of OBCs in every State; and

(c) if so, the specific steps taken in that direction in Orissa since introduction of the schemes for welfare of OBCs?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA): (a) The National Backward Classes Finance & Development Corporation (NBCFDC), a wholly owned Corporation of the Government of India as a Company not for profit, has been set up on 13.1.92 under the Company's Act, 1956. The Corporation provides financial assistance and training grants etc. to the eligible members of the Other Backward Classes through State Channelising Agencies nominated by the concerned State Governments. The number of schemes varies from State to State. A note bringing out the activities which can be financed by it is at Statement (*See* below).

(b) As far as NBCFDC is concerned, 37 State Channelising Agencies have been nominated in 26 States/UTs, out of which loans have been sanctioned to 30 State Channelising Agencies in 21 States on the viable proposals submitted by them from time to time since inception of the Corporation i.e. & 1992-93 to the November, 1997.

(c) The Government of Orissa has established Orissa Backward Classes Development Finance Co-operative Corporation to obtain loan from NBCFDC during 1996-97. Before that the Orissa Scheduled Caste Development Finance Co-operative Corporation was nominated as the Channelising Agency for Orissa State to obtain loan from NBCFDC. During the year 1993-94 & 1994-95 total loans amounting to Rs. 992.37 lakhs were sanctioned by NBCFDC to benefit 3,900 beneficiaries in Orissa. Against these sanctioned loans the State Channelising Agency has been able to draw only Rs. 270.09 lakhs for 1330 beneficiaries during the year 1994-95. No proposal for sanction of loan or drawal of funds have been received by this Corporation after 1994-95 and as

such no demand is pending with NBCFDC from Orissa State.

Statement

The Corporation can assist a wide range of income generating activities. However, it will not finance merely infrastructure development schemes. In case, where the infrastructure development leads directly to income generation, it can be considered for financing.

For the memebrs of Backward Classes living below the poverty line, the proposals should be such which generate enough income to the beneficiary to push him above the poverty line. This is an important aspect because spreading of assistance thinly without generating sufficient income for the beneficiary, serves little purpose.

ACTIVITIES WHICH CAN BE FINANCED UNDER NATIONAL BACKWARD CLASSES FINANCE AND DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION LOAN SCHEMES:—

(i) Agriculture and Allied

Agriculture production and related field such as irrigation, purchase of agriculture machinery, animal breeding, poultry farming, horticulture, bee keeping etc.

Purchase of equipment for agriculture services such as custom service (pesticide spray, harvesting etc.) custom hiring of agriculture machinery.

Agriculture marketing through cooperative Societies/Association of farmers belonging to Backward Classes. Setting up grading and packging houses, purchase of transport vehicles for marketing of agriculture produce etc.

Commission agents at Mandi Samities etc.

(ii) Artisan and Traditional occupation

These include barbers, washermen, tailors, weavers, carpenters, potters, Black-smiths, masons and manufacturing of handicraft items including brass were, gardeners in urban areas, etc.

(iii) Technical Trades-self Employment

These include technical trades such as electrician, plumber, sheet metal, TV/ Radio repair, motor mechanic, tyre puncture repair, refrigeration mechanic etc.

(iv) Small Business

These include small business, tea shop, general provision stores, books and stationery shop, newspaper and magazine shop, Vendors, Photocopier service, typewriting and word processing service etc.

(v) Small Scale and Tiny Industry

Hawai Chappal manufacturing, hair brush manufacturing, safety match box manufacturing etc.

(vi) Transport Services

These include plying of bullock and other animal driven carts, cycle-rickshaw, autorickshaw, taxis, tempos, trucks for hire etc. including cycle hiring service.

The above activities are illustrative and not exhaustive, and beneficiaries may choose any of the occupations of their choice under these activities.

Sewage Treatment Plants in cities

*73. SHRI K.R. MALKANI: Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS & EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) how many cities in the country have a population of one lakh and above according to 1991 census;

(b) how many of them have adquate sewage treatment plants;

(c) whether it is a fact that raw sewage is polluting water streams and is causing many water-borne diseases; and

(d) whether Government would consider giving these sewage treatment plants the hoghest priority at least in the cities, to make "Health for all by 2000 A.D." a reality?